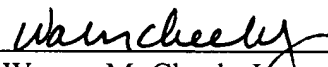


**REMARKS**

The status of the parent application has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.  
Allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Saiko HOSOKAWA et al.

By:   
Warren M. Cheek, Jr.  
Registration No. 33,367  
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk  
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021  
Telephone (202) 721-8200  
Facsimile (202) 721-8250  
December 9, 2003